NUMB. CXXXIII.

The GUARDIAN.

Oh! fatal Love of Fame! Oh Glorious Heat!
Only Deſtructive to the Brave and Great. Campaign.

Thurſday, Auguſt 13. 1713.

THE Letters which I publiſhed in the *Guardian* of *Saturday* laſt, are written with ſuch Spirit and Greatneſs of Mind, that they had excited a great Curioſity in my Lady *Lizard*'s Family, to know what occaſioned the Quarrel betwixt the two brave Men who wrote them; and what was the Event of their Combat. I found the Family the other Day liſtning in a Circle to Mr. *William* the *Templer*, who was informing the Ladies, of the Ceremonies uſed in the *Single Combat*, when the Kings of *England* permitted ſuch Trials to be performed in their Preſence. He took Occaſion, from the chance of ſuch judicial Proceedings, to relate a Cuſtom uſed, in a certain Part of *India*, to determine Law-Suits, which he produced as a Paralell to the *Single Combat*. The Cuſtom is, *That the Plaintiff and Defendant are thrown into a River, where each endeavours to keep under Water as long as he is able; and he who comes up firſt, loſes the Cauſe.* The Author adds, *that if they had no other way of deciding Controverſies in* Europe, *the Lawyers might e'en throw themſelves in after them.*

The Mirth, occaſioned by this *Indian* Law, did not hinder the Ladies from reflecting ſtill more upon the above named Letters. I found they had agreed, that it muſt be a Miſtreſs which cauſed the Duel; and Mrs. *Cornelia* had already fettled in her Mind the Faſhion of their Arms, their Colours and Devices: My Lady only aſked, with a Sigh, if either of the Combatants had a Wife and Children?

In order to give them what Satisfaction I could, I looked over my Papers; and though I could not find the Occaſion of the Difference, I ſhall preſent the World with an authentick Account of the Fight, written by the Survivor to a Courtier. The gallant Behaviour of the Combatants may ſerve to raiſe in our Minds yet a higher Deteſtation of that falſe Honour, which robs our Country of Men ſo fitted to ſupport, and adorn it.

Sir Edward Sackvill's *Relation of the Fight betwixt him and the Lord* Bruce.

Worthy Sir,

'AS I am not ignorant, ſo ought I to be ſenſible, of the falſe Aſperſions, ſome Authorleſs Tongues have laid upon me, in the Reports of the unfortunate Paſſage lately happened between the Lord *Bruce*, and my ſelf, which as they are ſpread here, ſo may I juſtly fear they reign alſo where you are. There are but two Ways to reſolve Doubts of this Nature; by Oath, or by Sword. The firſt is due to Magiſtrates, and communicable to Friends; the other to ſuch, as maliciouſly ſlander, and impudently defend their Aſſertion. Your Love, not my Merit, aſſure me, you hold me your Friend, which Eſteem I am much deſirous to retain. Do me therefore the Right to underſtand the Truth of that, and in my Behalf inform others, who either are, or may be poſſeſſed with ſiniſter Rumours, much prejudicial to that fair Opinion I deſire to hold amongſt all worthy Perſons. And, in the Faith of a Gentleman, the Relation I ſhall give is neither more nor leſs than the bare Truth. The incloſed contains the firſt Citation, ſent me from *Paris* by a *Scotiſh* Gentleman, who delivered it me in *Derbyſhire* at my Father-in-Law's Houſe. After it follows my then Anſwer, returned him by the ſame Bearer. The next is my Accompliſhment of my firſt Promiſe, being a particular Aſſignation of Place, and Weapons, which I ſent, by a Servant of mine, by Poſt from *Rotterdam*, as ſoon as I landed there. The Receipt of which, joined with an Acknowledgment of my too fair Carriage to the Deceaſed Lord, is teſtified by the Laſt, which Periods the Buſineſs till we meet at *Tergoſe* in *Zeland*, it being the Place allotted for Rendezvous; where he, accompanied with one Mr. *Crawford*, an *Engliſh* Gentleman, for his *Second*, a Surgeon, and a Man, arrived with all the ſpeed he could. And there having rendred himſelf, I addreſſed my Second, Sir *John Heidon*, to let him underſtand, that now all following ſhould be done by Conſent, as concerning the Terms whereon we ſhould fight, as alſo the Place. To our *Seconds* we gave Power for their Appointments, who agreed we ſhould go to *Antwerp*, from thence to *Bergen-op-zoom*, where in the mid-way but a Village divides the *States*'s Territories from the *Arch-Duke*'s. And there was the deſtined Stage, to the end, that having ended, he, that could, might preſently exempt himſelf from the Juſtice of the Country, by retiring into the Dominion not offended. It was further concluded, that in caſe any ſhould Fall, or Slip, that then the Combat ſhould ceaſe, and he whoſe ill Fortune had ſo ſubjected him, was to acknowledge his Life to have been in the other's Hands. But in caſe one Party's Sword ſhould break, becauſe that could only chance by Hazard, it was agreed that the other ſhould take no Advantage, but either then be made Friends, or elſe upon even Terms go to it again. Thus theſe Concluſions being each of them related to his Party, was by us both approved, and aſſented to. Accordingly we embarked for *Antwerp*, and by reaſon my Lord, as I conceive, becauſe he could not handſomly, without Danger of Diſcovery, had not paired the Sword I ſent him to *Paris*; bringing one of the ſame